REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in this application. Claim 11, 17, 19 and 20 were amended to address the Examiner's objections and to clarify the claim language. ·Accordingly, it is requested that the objections be withdrawn. No new matter has been added as a result of the amendments.

Claims 1-6 of the present application were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kamperschroer* (US Patent No. 6,539,033 / WO98/11759). Applicant traverses these rejections. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Specifically, the cited art, alone or in combination, does not teach the feature of "transmitting a service data unit configured at least as a fragment in each protocol data unit independently of the size of said service data unit, which is configured at least as a fragment, in comparison with the size of a free part of said each protocol data unit which is in each case not yet occupied by service data" as recited in claim 1. *Kamperschroer* discloses a hybrid telecommunication system containing a first telecommunication subsystem and a second telecommunication subsystem (col. 1, lines 55-57). The second telecommunication subsystem has, for the purpose of transmitting first subsystem messages of the first telecommunication subsystem and for the purpose of transmitting second subsystem messages of the second telecommunication subsystem, a first telecommunication interface and a second telecommunication interface, each having a plurality of message transmission planes. (col. 1, lines 57-62). The second telecommunication subsystem is incorporated via the telecommunication interfaces, as a local message transmission loop into the first telecommunications system, wherein a first volume of data of the first subsystem messages, which is to be transmitted between identical first message transmission planes of the telecommunication interfaces according to a transmission plane-specific transmission format, is transmitted. (col. 1, line 63 to col. 2, line 4). The system-specific messages (data) to be transmitted in the telecommunication subsystem is then transmitted in a *single* data block between transmission planes even when the system-specific volume of data (first volume) exceeds a subsystem specific volume of data (second volume) that can maximally be transmitted between identical message transmission planes of the telecommunication subsystem (col. 2, lines 4-12).

Accordingly, the data blocks of *Kamperschroer* do not function in the same way as the "protocol data" claimed in the present invention. *Kamperschroer* clearly teaches the use of the SEGMENTED INFO protocol as a basis to implement a REPEAT INDICATOR information element (see

col. 7, lines 10-19; col. 8, lines 39-54). Using this configuration, two informational elements (IWU-to-IWU) making up a "long" ISDN message can be placed behind one another in a single data block. *Kamperschroer* is also completely silent regarding the fragmenting of protocol data in the manner described in claim 1 into four concatenated informational units.

Furthermore, *Kamperschroer* does not disclose "specifying or allocating a fourth information item corresponding to the value 'zero' of the service data length to said protocol data unit, together with said second information item in said protocol data unit when said transmission of service data is ended at least temporarily" as recited in claim 1. Contrary to the passage relied upon by the Examiner (col. 4, lines 40-45), *Kamperschroer* does not disclose the aforementioned features, but merely describes a telecommunications system (IDRW-TS) having a telecommunication subscriber (user) TCU (TeleCommunication User) with terminal TE (Terminal Endpoint; Terminal Equipment), along with the services available in it, designed as a local message transmission loop. There is no mention whatsoever of system behavior when the transmission of service data is ended "at least temporarily".

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 11, 17 and 19 of the present application, and all claims that depend therefrom, are both novel and non-obvious over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

A petition for a three-month extension of time, along with a check in the amount of $950.00 is enclosed. If any fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Examiner is authorized to deduct such fees from deposit account no. 02-1818. If such a deduction is made, please indicate the attorney docket number (0112740-0430) on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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